

by then I didn't much care
for any of them
he received excellent care from us
true to his word
I got nothing
except his skill with the written word

MY TWIN BROTHER ON THE WEST COAST

he's 26 years older
we come from different parents/backgrounds
he's an only child
I'm a "pseudo only child"
our respective fathers were
combination pricks/assholes
I doubt if our mothers would've
crossed paths
mine is very macho
Vegas mobsters nightclubs
big time swearing
what can I say?
her father wanted a son - she obliged
getting back to my twin
all we really share is an attitude
a way of keeping severe distance
from the mainstream
I didn't pick it up from him
"Don't be anti-social, Johnny."
eat shit
it's good
to find someone on this planet
sort of like yourself
this is as close as I'll ever get
to ever letting him know about his bro
back east

CLASS

I was failing English
in my freshman year of high school
it was a frantic time in my life
my mother stepped in
got me the very best of tutors
the former head of the English Department
an old yankee
we diagrammed sentences
broke it all down
she asked me why

every step of the way
turned me on to Emerson
especially Compensation
& Self-Reliance
I was back in town
when she died
but it was a private affair

WOMEN CONTINUE TO GRACE US

despite our myriad failings
they still give us a break
play it straight too
even though they laugh at us
when they get together
they're on to something
it's they who perpetuate the species
& don't forget it Jack
we can't bear their superiority
do what we can
to deny it
they finally got their chance in 1920
to be included in the voting process
remember
they were the majority
in that election
Harding vs Cox
it was the vacuous but handsome Warren G
running against a less glamorous man
of substance
the fact that an airhead won
only proves that women are just as capable
at blundering as men have always been

BABY BABY BABY

I saw you in the neighborhood
back in '78
you married that year
a Japanese drummer
who made you very unhappy
for a long time
there I was around the corner
but you didn't catch on to me
until 10 years later
when you got on my bus
we're both a hell of a lot happier
as we ease into year number 4